

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A audio playback system comprising:  
an audio content server, said audio content server includes audio content to be selected for playback; and  
a device, said device to call said audio content server to request and receive an audio playback of selected audio content at a scheduled time.
2. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device is a clock-radio device.
3. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device to include an audio output speaker, said audio content server to play said selected audio content over said audio output speaker.
4. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device is to provide authentication information prior to accessing said audio content server.
5. The audio playback system of claim 1 further comprising:  
a registration server, said registration server includes a set of one or more phone numbers of said audio content server, said device to call said registration server to receive one of said phone numbers of said audio content server, said audio content server to store said one of said phone numbers of said audio content server in a memory of said device.
6. The audio playback system of claim 5 where said device uses said one of said phone numbers of said audio content server to call said audio content server to request and receive said selected audio content.
7. The audio playback system of claim 5 where said device is to provide authentication information prior to accessing said registration server.

8. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device includes a microphone, said microphone to select said selected audio content on said audio content server with interactive voice instructions, said microphone to provide subscriber information to said audio content server.
9. The audio playback system of claim 1 further comprising:  
a user configuration server, said user configuration server to include a selection of audio content; and  
a web based browser, said web based browser to access said user configuration server to select audio content to be played over said device.
10. The audio playback system of claim 9 where said web based browser is to access said user configuration server to update subscriber information.
11. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said web based browser is to provide authentication information prior to accessing said user configuration server.
12. The audio playback system of claim 1 further comprising:  
a schedule database server, said schedule database server to include subscriber calendar information, said scheduler calendar information is to be played over said device.
13. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device to include a tactile console to schedule a time to play said selected audio content over said audio output speaker.
14. The audio playback system of claim 1 where the audio playback includes audio advertising information.
15. The audio playback system of claim 1 where said device to include a memory, said memory to store one or more device settings.

16. The audio playback system of claim 15 where said device settings to be received from said audio content server.
17. The audio playback system of claim 15 where said device settings to include at least one selected from the group consisting of a phone number of said audio content server, an alarm time, an update timestamp, a radio frequency, and a wake-up option.
18. A method to play selected audio content comprising:  
selecting audio content from an audio content server to be provided via  
an audio playback over an audio output speaker;  
scheduling a time to send a request to said audio content server for said  
audio playback of said selected audio content;  
sending said request to receive said audio playback from said audio  
content server at said scheduled time; and  
playing the audio playback of the selected audio content over said audio  
output speaker.
19. The method of claim 18 where said selecting audio content includes to use interactive voice instructions to select said audio content.
20. The method of claim 19 where said interactive voice instructions are to be made over a microphone.
21. The method of claim 18 where said selecting audio content includes to use a web based client to select said audio content.
22. The method of claim 18 further comprising:  
accessing a registration server;  
retrieving from said registration server a phone number of said audio  
content server; and  
storing said phone number in a memory.
23. The method of claim 18 further comprising:  
accessing said audio content server with said phone number.

24. The method of claim 23 further comprising:  
sending authentication information to said registration server to access  
said registration server.
25. The method of claim 18 where said sending includes sending  
authentication data to said audio content server.
26. The method of claim 18 where said selected audio content includes at  
least one selected from the group consisting of traffic information, news  
information, weather information, financial information, entertainment  
information, business information, schedule information, and sports  
information.
27. The method of claim 18 where said sending includes sending subscriber  
information to be updated on said audio content server.
28. The method of claim 18 further comprising:  
selecting audio content from an user configuration server, said user  
configuration server to include audio content selections to be  
selected to be provided via said audio playback to said audio  
output speaker.
29. The method of claim 18 where said scheduling includes scheduling an  
alarm on a clock-radio device.
30. The method of claim 18 where the audio playback includes audio  
advertising information.
31. The method of claim 18 further comprising:  
receiving one or more device settings from said audio content server;  
and  
storing said device settings in a memory.
32. An apparatus to receive selected audio content comprising:  
a transmitter unit, said transmitter unit to make a request to an audio  
content server;

a receiver unit, said receiving unit to receive an audio playback of  
selected audio content requested by said transmitter unit; and  
an audio output speaker, said audio output speaker to output said audio  
playback of said selected audio content.

33. The apparatus of claim 32 where said request is for an audio playback of  
said selected audio content, said audio playback to be directed to said  
audio output speaker.
34. The apparatus of claim 32 further comprising:  
a scheduler unit, said scheduler unit to schedule a time when said  
transmitter unit is to make said request.
35. The apparatus of claim 32 where said transmitter unit to include a  
microphone from where a subscriber may make said request.
36. The apparatus of claim 32 where said subscriber is to use said  
microphone to interact with said audio content server to select said  
selected audio content.
37. The apparatus of claim 32 further comprising:  
said transmitter unit to call a registration server, said registration server  
includes a set of one or more phone numbers of said audio  
content server;  
said receiver unit to receive one of said phone numbers; and  
said receiver unit to store said phone one of said phone numbers in a  
memory.
38. The apparatus of claim 32 where said request to include authentication  
information from which said transmitter unit is to use to access said  
audio content server.
39. The apparatus of claim 32 where said request include subscriber  
information to be updated on said audio content server.

40. The apparatus of claim 32 where said transmitter unit is to select audio content from a user configuration server to be provided directed to said audio output speaker.
41. The apparatus of claim 40 where said transmitter unit to provide subscriber information to said user configuration server, said user configuration server to store said subscriber information.
42. The apparatus of claim 32 where the audio playback includes audio advertising information.
43. The apparatus of claim 32 further comprising:  
a memory, said memory to store one or more settings of said apparatus,  
said one or more settings to be received from said audio content server.
44. A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause said processor to perform the following comprising:  
selecting audio content from an audio content server to be provided via  
an audio playback over an audio output speaker;  
scheduling a time to send a request to said audio content server for said audio playback of said selected audio content;  
sending said request to receive said audio playback from said audio content server at said scheduled time; and  
playing the audio playback of the selected audio content over said audio output speaker.
45. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said selecting audio content comprises using interactive voice instructions to select said audio content.
46. The machine-readable medium of claim 45 where said interactive voice instructions are to be made over a microphone when selecting audio content.

47. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said selecting audio content includes using a web based client to select said audio content.
48. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 further comprising:  
accessing a registration server;  
retrieving from said registration server a phone number of said audio content server; and  
storing said phone number in a memory.
49. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 further comprising:  
accessing said audio content server with said phone number.
50. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 further comprising:  
sending authentication information to said registration server to access said registration server.
51. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said sending includes sending authentication data to said audio content server.
52. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said selected audio content includes at least one selected from the group consisting of traffic information, news information, weather information, financial information, entertainment information, business information, schedule information, and sports information when selecting audio content.
53. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said sending includes sending subscriber information to be updated on said audio content server.
54. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 further comprising:  
selecting audio content from an user configuration server, said user configuration server to include audio content selections to be selected to be provided via said audio playback to said audio output speaker.

55. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where said scheduling comprises scheduling an alarm on a clock-radio device.
56. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 where the audio playback comprises receiving audio advertising information.
57. The machine-readable medium of claim 44 further comprising:  
receiving one or more device settings from said audio content server;  
and  
storing said device settings in a memory.

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